

Integrated Academic Training: Management of ACFs and CLs



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Management of Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) and Clinical Lectureship (CL) Posts

1.0 “In Addition” Status for CLs

“In addition” Status only applies for CL posts. NIHR CL awards will now be in addition to the current pool of NTNs. This is separate to “supernumerary” posts. Training Programme Directors will still need to confirm whether or not CL posts can be accommodated in the sense that there is appropriate supervision for the CL Trainee. Where it comes to Locally Funded CLs, they are only “in addition” if the CL is fully funded by the local funders. Majority of our locally funded CLs are part funded (50% provided by the local funder, and 50% by LETB via TARIF/Trust Funded).

1.1 Management of NIHR ACFs

- Designed for trainees without a higher degree (PhD/MD) to prepare them to take up a research fellowship, but those with higher degrees may also apply.
- ACF training is a 75%:25% clinical academic split. (Total academic time over the 3-year award is 9 months).

Length of Funding: 3 years

Employer: Trust

Honorary Contract: Medical School

ACFs in their clinical block

ACF in their clinical block will be paid by the trust via TARIF/Trust Funded – see **image 2** for an explanation of the TARIF/Trust Funded switch “on/off” funding mechanism. Trust’s should see the academic trainee appear on their finance schedule with the amount shown (TARIF/Trust Funded amount combined with the “Net Payment” amount).

ACFs in their academic block

It is the previous trust who pay for the academic block. This is to prevent unnecessary contracts from being created as some academic blocks can be 1-month long. There are, however, a few exceptions to take note of: if the trainee begins their ACF on an academic block, then it is the trust they rotate into who pay for the academic block. If the previous trust is outside of London, then it is the trust they rotate into who pay for the academic block. The academic block will appear on the (Trust Rotation Grid) TRoG for the employing trust. For example, academic block (NPN(A)) at University College London but employed by Bart’s Health NHS Trust; the NPN(A) will appear on Bart’s Health NHS Trust TRoG – see **Image 1**

1.2 Management of NIHR CLs

- Clinical Lecturer (CL) awards are senior level academic awards. They are designed for those with commitment to academic career – applicants must hold a higher degree (PhD/MD) in order to be eligible
- Appointed at ST3 level and above (ST4 for Paediatrics and Psychiatry).
- Training is a 50:50 split between clinical and academic training.

Length of Funding: 4 years

Employer: Medical School

Honorary Contract: Trust

CLs in their clinical block

NIHR funding is sent directly to the medical school where it is distributed accordingly. CLs do not adopt the TARIF/Trust Funded on/off funding. The medical school will invoice London LETB Finance team for the amount.

CLs in their academic block

NIHR funding is sent directly to the medical school where it is distributed accordingly. CLs do not adopt the TARIF/Trust Funded on/off funding. The medical school will invoice London LETB Finance team for the amount.

2.0 Locally Funded ACFs and CLs

Medical school partnerships can also apply to have locally funded ACF and CL posts recognised as being equivalent to NIHR posts. In these instances, all the funding for the post (clinical and academic) is provided by the Medical School/NHS Trust (or a combination of both).

When agreeing to provide funding for a locally funded post, the following information is required, in the form of a letter signed by the relevant Director of Finance:

- Appointment through national competition;
- Agreement from the TPD to integrate the ACF/CL into the training programme.
- 3 year (ACF) and 4 year (CL and GP ACF) appointments with 25% and 50% academic training respectively;
- access to formal training in research methods and research governance;
- joint clinical and academic ARCP;
- similar supervision/mentorship arrangements for ACF and CL appointees, and;
- access to a locally funded £1k per annum travel bursary to attend conferences.

A NIHR proforma for applying for locally funded ACF or CL posts to be recognised can be obtained from the IAT Team. Please contact the academic team on academictraining.lase@hee.nhs.uk for further guidance in the set-up of locally funded posts. **All locally funded applications should be approved by the academic institute before it is sent to the IAT team.**

2.1 Management of Locally Funded ACFs

LF ACFs in their clinical block

Length of Funding: 3 years

Employer: Trust

Honorary Contract: Medical School

LF ACF posts will be funded via TARIF/Trust Funded for their clinical component, adopting the same structure as a "normal" clinical trainee in the training programme.

LF ACFs in their academic block

The local funders will pay for this block. During this academic block, the trainee will be employed by the medical school and will hold an honorary contract with the trust.

2.2 Management of Locally Funded CLs

Length of Funding: 4 years

Employer: Trust

Honorary Contract: Medical School

LF CLs in their clinical block

LF ACF posts will be funded via TARIF/Trust Funded for their clinical component, adopting the same structure as a "normal" clinical trainee in the training programme.

LF CLs in their academic block

The local funders will pay for this block. During this academic block, the trainee will be employed by the medical school and will hold an honorary contract with the trust.

3.1 GP ACFs and CLs

GPLEO Contacts

All ACFs should be employed by the GPELO and hold an honorary contract with the medical school. Contacts to the GPLEO is found below:

North London: The Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust

Named Contact: Gareth Jones or Maria Neophytou

Contact Inbox: rf.gpleo@nhs.net

South London: St Georges University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Named contact: Emma Barrett

Contact Inbox: gpst@stgeorges.nhs.uk

A Lead Employer will be responsible for providing a full range of employer and human resource services and support, regardless of where a trainee is actually based or rotates to during their three-year training.

NIHR funding is sent to the GPLEO to be distributed accordingly.

GP CLs

Clinical Lectureship begins from ST4+ which means that successful applicants awarded the CL have reached CCT. GP CLs should hold a contract with the medical school and an honorary contract with the trust

During this time, the Clinical Lecturer cannot take up a consultant post. Doing so will bring an end to the CL award.

4.0 Study Leave Budget and NIHR Bursary

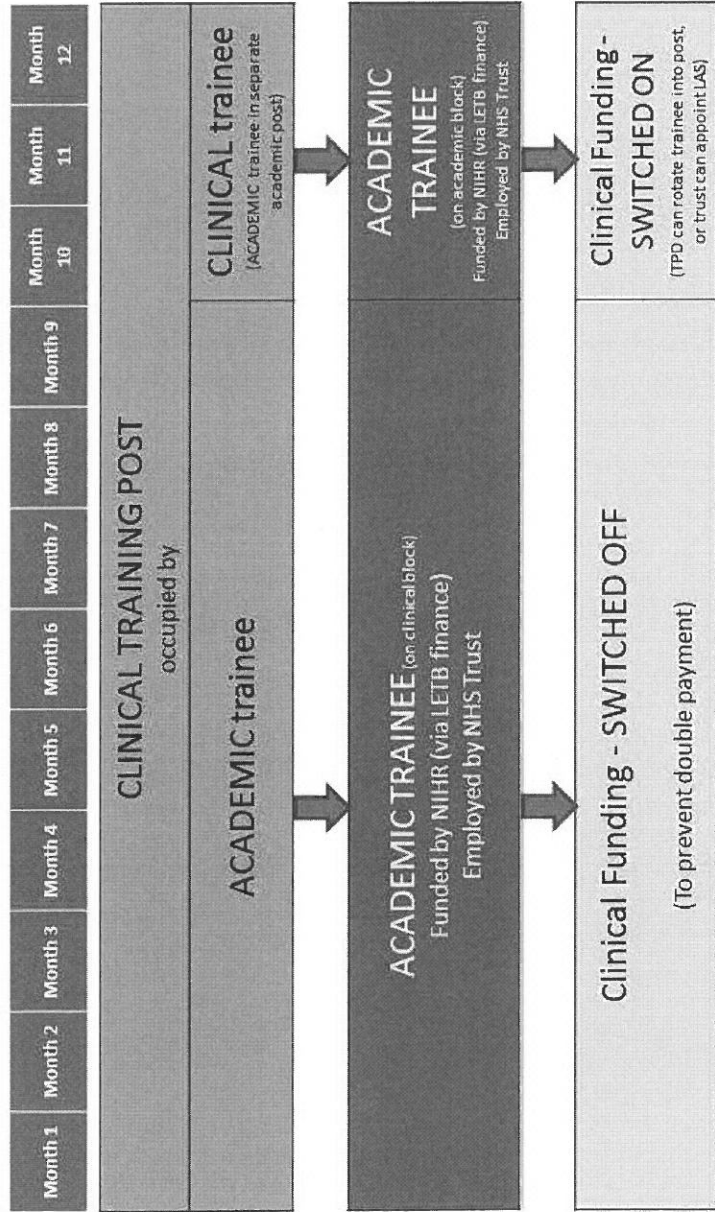
ACFs/CLs have access to both Study Leave Budget and NIHR Bursary. SL budget is managed by the trust and all queries should be directed to them. NIHR Bursary is managed by the medical school and all queries should be directed to them.

Image 1.

Programme	National Post Number	Trust	Site	Speciality	Post Funding End Da	Funding Bod Current	Trainee Name	GM/C/GDC/Public Health Num	Current	Start	Da	Current	Placement	End	Da	Placement	Typ	Grade	Var
Core Surgical Training North East LDN	LDN/81276(CST/ACF/002/A)	BARTS HEALTH NHS TRUST	University College London	Core surgical training	03/07/2018	NIHR	John	123456715	(CST/00037/IN)	04/04/2018		03/07/2018	In post					ST2	

Image 2.

Academic Clinical Fellow (ACF) funding example



NIHR ACF Funding for IAT in London.

There are 2 sources of funding:

NIHR – who pay for the ACF/CL trainee throughout their ACF/CL award

TARIF/Trust Funded – which pays for the clinical training post.

POST OCCUPIED BY	FUNDING COMES VIA
Academic Trainee (ACF/CL)	NIHR
Clinical Trainee	TARIF/Trust Funded

The adjustments between NIHR & TARIF/Trust Funded funding are made by the HEE Finance team and distributed via the quarterly LDA funding stream. As shown above, the “backfill” is covered by TARIF/Trust Funded and distributed via the quarterly LDA funding stream.